

From: Edward F.(038)Kathryn J. Carrier
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/14/02 7:40pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

12-A Highland Road
Rochester, Pa. 15074
January 14, 2002

The Honorable John Ashcroft
Attorney General
U. S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20530

Dear Attorney General Ashcroft:

I believe the antitrust case that has been brought against Microsoft for the last three years is ridiculous and has been dragged out too long. I am glad to see that Microsoft will not be broken up, but feel that many of the concessions Microsoft will be making are more than are really necessary.

For one, the contractual restrictions Microsoft will be making limit their ability to gain and maintain market share. Companies in many other industries rely on the ability to enter into third party agreements which demand exclusive or fixed percentage distribution rights. Second, the disclosure of Microsoft interfaces to competitors violates Microsoft's intellectual property rights. Microsoft has spent extraordinary amounts of time and effort to develop their technology and it would undermine the whole reason for being innovative in a business if their developments become free information for everyone.

The bottom line is that it is in the best interest of the American public to have this matter settled. It will be good for the states, the IT industry, for Microsoft and for the economy. Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

Kathryn J. Carrier